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P 240155Z FEB 09
FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6405
INFO RUCNASE/ASEAN MEMBER COLLECTIVE
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 0856
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL 0067

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 000159

SIPDIS

SCA/A - REOTT
EUR/RPM - COPE
EAP/MTS - COPPOLA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/23/2019

TAGS: PREL PARM EAID SN AF

SUBJECT: SINGAPORE ACKNOWLEDGES LACKING INSIGHT ON
AFGHANISTAN

REF: A. SECSTATE 14097
1B. SECSTATE 15623

Classified By: CDA - Daniel Shields for reasons 1.4 (b/d).

(C) EAP/DAS and Ambassador to ASEAN Scot Marciel and the CDA delivered reftel demarches on Afghanistan to MFA Second Permanent Secretary Bilahari Kausikan in a February 20 meeting. Kausikan said Singapore would consider the request for views from Singapore, but Singapore has historically not focused on Afghanistan and has few insights to share. Noting that "the Middle East seems to be creeping eastward," he said Singapore is trying to understand Afghanistan better and is increasingly worried about the situation there.

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SHIELDS